IN THE CLAIMS

1. **(Currently Amended)**   A method for integrating security and user account data in a reporting system with at least one remote repository, comprising the steps of:

   enabling a user to submit user credential input to a reporting system;

   identifying an authentication process;

   forwarding the user credential input to a server; and

   enabling the server to apply the authentication process to authenticate the user against a remote repository for verifying the user credential input and to determine user access control data for identifying a least one user privilege for performing one or more actions and at least one user permission associated with one or more objects.

2. **(Original)** The method of claim 1 further comprising a step of importing user information from the remote repository.

3. **(Original)** The method of claim 1 wherein the authentication process comprises Lightweight Directory Access Protocol.

4. **(Original)** The method of claim 1 wherein the authentication process comprises an operating system authentication.

5. **(Original)** The method of claim 2 further comprising a step of enabling the server to synchronize user account data with the user information from the remote repository.

6. **(Original)** The method of claim 1 wherein the user is associated with a group of users wherein group information from the remote repository is imported.

7. **(Original)** The method of claim 2 wherein the user information comprises at least one or user permissions, privileges and access rights associated with the user.

8. **(Currently Amended)** A system for integrating security and user account data in a reporting system with at least one remote repository, comprising:

an input for enabling a user to submit user credential input to a reporting system;

an identification module for identifying an authentication process;

a forwarding module for forwarding the user credential input to a server; and

a server for applying the authentication process to authenticate the user against a remote repository for verifying the user credential input <u>and to determine user access control data for identifying a least one user privilege for performing one or more actions and at least one user permission associated with one or more objects</u>.

9. **(Original)** The system of claim 8 further comprising an import module for importing user information from the remote repository.

10. **(Original)** The system of claim 8 wherein the authentication process comprises Lightweight Directory Access Protocol.

11. **(Original)** The system of claim 8 wherein the authentication process comprises an operating system authentication.

12. **(Original)** The system of claim 9 wherein the server synchronizes user account data with the user information from the remote repository.

13. **(Original)** The system of claim 8 wherein the user is associated with a group of users wherein group information from the remote repository is imported.

14. **(Original)** The system of claim 9 wherein the user information comprises at least one or user permissions, privileges and access rights associated with the user.

15. **(Currently Amended)**   A processor-readable medium comprising code for execution by a processor to integrate security and user account data in a reporting system with at least one remote repository, the medium comprising:

code for causing a processor to enable a user to submit user credential input to a reporting system;

code for causing a processor to identify an authentication process;

code for causing a processor to forward the user credential input to a server; and

code for causing a processor to enable the server to apply the authentication process to authenticate the user against a remote repository for verifying the user credential input and to determine user access control data for identifying a least one user privilege for performing one or more actions and at least one user permission associated with one or more objects.

16. **(Original)** The medium of claim 15 further comprising code for causing a processor to import user information from the remote repository.

17. **(Original)** The medium of claim 15 wherein the authentication process comprises at least one of Lightweight Directory Access Protocol and operating system authentication.

18. **(Original)** The medium of claim 16 further comprising code for causing a processor to enable the server to synchronize user account data with the user information from the remote repository.

19. **(Original)** The medium of claim 15 wherein the user is associated with a group of

users wherein group information from the remote repository is imported.

20. **(Original)** The medium of claim 16 wherein the user information comprises at least

one or user permissions, privileges and access rights associated with the user.